

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 RSR-01 /048 W

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R 241520Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1008

UNCLAS CARACAS 7368

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS PINT OTRA VE

SUBJ: DEPOSIT ON AVM VOTING MACHINES PAID BACK TO VENEZUELAN
GOVERNMENT

REF: CARACAS 7292

1. PRESS REPORTS IN DETAIL CEREMONY MORNING OF AUGUST 23 IN WHICH EDWARD C. DOBBS, PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY, PRESENTED TO ATTORNEY GENERAL JOSE GUILLERMO ANDUEZA A BANCO MERCANTIL Y AGRICOLA CHECK FOR \$2,854,454 (EQUIVALENT TO BS. 12,517,179.83 AT GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE RATE OF BS. 4.385 TO DOLLAR IN FORCE AT TIME OF CONTRACT), REPRESENTING 15 PERCENT DEPOSIT MADE BY VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT ON PURCHASE OF 10,000 AVM VOTING MACHINES.

2. VENEZUELAN ATTORNEY FOR AVM, IN PRESENCE OF AVM PRESIDENT, TOLD REPORTS THAT AVM CONSIDERS THAT THERE HAVE NOT BEEN ANY IRREGULARITIES, AND WAS RETURNING MONEY TO AVOID INCONVENIENCES OF LITIGATION. HE SAID AVM WILL SUFFER MILLIONS OF DOLLARS LOSSES, REPRESENTING ABOUT HALF OF TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE 424 MACHINES COMPLETED CANNOT EASILY BE SOLD TO OTHER COUNTRIES BECAUSE OF SPECIAL FEATURES OF VENEZUELAN ELECTORAL SYSTEM.

3. DOBBS OF AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE SAID HIS COMPANY WAS PAYING BECAUSE AVM DID NOT HAVE THE MONEY AT THE MOMENT. DOBBS SAID AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE WILL NOT SUFFER LOSS,
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SINCE IT WILL RECOVER MONEY FROM AVM.

MCCLINTOCK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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